

Community and economic development programs
(SB 1345 by Washington/A. Luna)

DIGEST: SB 1345 would have authorized county commissioners courts to administer state and local economic development programs and programs for small and disadvantaged businesses. The commissioners courts could have authorized economic development programs to be administered by commissioner precincts.

GOVERNOR'S
REASON

FOR VETO: The new Texas Department of Commerce is better able to administer community development programs than are commissioners courts.

AUTHOR'S

VIEW: Sen. Craig Washington's office said the Texas Department of Commerce is not the best entity to administer community development programs. The new department has a role to play, but it will not have the same understanding of local issues that a county commissioners court would have. Both bodies should have development authority. SB 1345 is a good bill that would benefit all counties.

NOTES: SB 1345 passed the House on the Consent Calendar and was not analyzed in a Daily Floor Report.